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# HARVARD LAW REVIEW.

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THE LAW SCHOOL. — It has not been generally known, until very recently, to whom the Law School owed the fund which was given a number of years ago to found the so-called New Professorship, at present held by Professor Thayer. The obligation to secrecy has been removed by the death of the donor, William Fletcher Weld, Esq., a member of the class of 1879, in the Law School, and of the College class of 1876.

By the death of the annuitant to whom the income of the fund was to be paid during life, another gift has become available. This is the bequest left by George Bemis, Esq., a graduate of the College in 1835, and of the Law School in 1839, to found a professorship of International Law. The fund now amounts to \$50,845.23, or enough to yield only about half the sum now paid to the senior professors. It was Mr. Bemis's wish that the incumbent should be a jurist who had been in public life or in the diplomatic service, or who at least had lived abroad; and also that he should be "not merely a professor of the science but a practical co-operator in the work of advancing knowledge and good-will among nations and governments." As President Eliot says, in his Annual Report, it will be difficult to fill this chair.

AMONG recent accessions to the Library is one which deserves notice, not only because of its importance, but also because of the circumstances under which it was obtained. There is now on the way from Australia a complete set of the reports of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and South Australia. Some of these reports are exceedingly scarce; and the Law School owes the set in question solely to the kindness of Hon. Samuel J. Way, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of South Australia, who not only gave his time to its collection, but, on account of the distance, even advanced the purchase-money out of his own pocket. Such friendliness is not common.

SINCE the appearance of the December number, seven more students — five in the first-year class, and two specials — have entered the School. This brings the total registration up to one more than four hundred.

In addition to the extra instruction announced in the Annual Catalogue, Professor Beale is delivering a course of six lectures on the Law of Damages, — substantially a repetition of those given by him two years ago.

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THERE are many reasons why the REVIEW takes great pleasure this month in offering to its readers an article from Sir Frederick Pollock. Harvard men naturally feel an interest in him, because of his very cordial references in the past to the Law School and its methods. Apart from that, no English lawyer off the bench is better or more deservedly known in this country than he, both on account of his prominence in the reform of English legal education, and through his books. But from its own standpoint the REVIEW is most of all gratified in numbering him among its contributors because he stands on the other side of the Atlantic, or indeed throughout the English-speaking world, for the very best — if such a way of putting it is not too presumptuous — in the REVIEW's own field. The Law Quarterly Review, which Sir Frederick Pollock has edited from the start, was as new a departure in England as it certainly would have been in the United States. It was the first periodical there, and is still the only one, which has given the scientific, the historical, and the philosophical aspects of the law an equal place by the side of those that are more practical. Its readers know with what ability it has fulfilled its double purpose, and also — a thing one cannot often say of legal literature — they are grateful indeed for the refreshing excellence of its literary quality. In the sense of furnishing a lawyer's armory with weapons for immediate use, such a magazine may not be so serviceable as one which deals more exclusively with litigated questions. But, after all, one hears that kind of argument quite often enough; it comes from the same spirit which is fast making the law in this country, or at least struggling to make it, a trade rather than a profession. Even in England there are not wanting signs of a like spirit; and it is perhaps Sir Frederick Pollock's best claim to gratitude that his whole effort, as editor, author, and educator, has been given to resist it.

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ORDERLY CONDUCT AS CONSIDERATION. — The Northwestern Law Review for February objects to a recent decision of the Supreme Court of Victoria that the defendant's agreement to pay a stipulated monthly sum to his divorced wife, in consideration that she "shall conduct herself with sobriety, and in a respectable, orderly, and virtuous manner," is binding. One judge dissented, on the ground of vagueness. That objection, however, seems hardly sufficient; for these adjectives, general as they are, have such a well-defined meaning, especially as applied to a woman, that it would seldom be difficult to apply them. The promise to a boy in consideration that he would not "bore" his father, is decidedly a more extreme case, and was properly held too vague.

The court also seems correct in holding that there was a detriment, since, as moral laxity and legal liability are not coextensive, the woman gave up her undoubted legal right to an occasional mild intoxication, as well as her right to enjoy company and manners that are permitted by law, but not by society. A large class of useful citizens spend their lives mostly